

Remarks

This response is being filed in response to the outstanding final office action dated August 20, 2005. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 9-18, 26-35 and 39-41 and allowing claims 7, 8, 24 and 25 if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has rewritten claims 7, 8, 24 and 25 in independent form. Applicant has also amended claims 1, 6, 20, 21, and 22. Independent claims 1, 20, 21, and 22 now include language to indicate that "adaptive filtering" requires: for each new pixel location in the new format, a filter is selected from a plurality of filters based upon an image intensity surface near the pixel location. No new matter has been added. For support, see, for example, paragraphs 29 and 30 of the application as published (US 2002/0021365). Claim 19 and claims 36-38 have been cancelled.

The applicants note that claims 1-6 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kellar (4,774,572) and that claims 22-23, 36-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable in view of Kellar. Claims 19 and 36-38 have been cancelled and will not be addressed.

Claim 1 and independent claims 20, 21 and 22 have been amended to more accurately claim what is meant by adaptive filtering. The claims now indicate that for each pixel value to be determined, a filter is selected from a plurality of filters based upon an image intensity surface that is near the pixel location.

The Kellar patent relates to video scan conversion and more specifically to the conversion of data obtained from a line scanner mounted on an aircraft. The terrain data that is scanned is turned into video. It is often desirable to zoom in on a particular section of an image and to roam over part of the total area of the image. The Kellar patent attempts to preserve the original resolution when "zooming" or "roaming" is selected by the user which was not possible in the prior art. Upon such a request (for zooming or roaming), the operation of the scan converter is modified to utilize the video signals at full scan resolution that are stored in bulk storage. See Fig. 1 The signals from the bulk store are processed "to enlarge the scale of the particular aspect of the field of view to be processed. Such initial processing may involve interpolation." See col. 3 lines 49-51.

The system stores portions of the video signals from the input at full resolution (of the sensor) in order to give the effect of zooming. See Col. 3 lines 40-43. The signals are fed to the converter from a "bulk store" rather than directly from the VTR (video tape recorder/reader) when zoom and roam are desired.

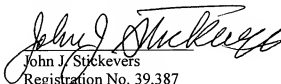
To achieve this, the scan converter is arranged to carry out "adaptive interpolation or filtering". See col. 3 line 57-59 Here, however, "adaptive" is just relative to the "mode of operation selected at any particular time." See Col. 3 lines 56-60.

Kellar does not teach or suggest using a filter selected from a plurality of filters as required by the independent claims. Nor does Kellar select a filter for each new pixel location within the new format. Further, Kellar does not use an image intensity surface near the pixel location to determine the selection of the filter for determining the new pixel value in the new image as required by the independent claims.

As a result, independent claims 1, 20, 21, and 22 are allowable. Similarly dependent claims 2-6 and 23 are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

It is not believed that an extension of time is required for this application. If any additional fees are required for the timely consideration of this application, please charge deposit account number 19-4972.

Respectfully submitted,


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